SUBJECT No. 30.

Empowering Courts to pass *ex-parte* decrees when the natural guardians do not appear after service of notice.

Mr. A. Narayana Iyengar, Hassan Taluk.

Mr. A. Narayana Iyengar.—When minors are sued for the debts contracted by their parents, the natural guardians of such minors, though personally served with notices, often fail to appear before the Court. In such cases, the plaintiffs will, with the approval of the Court, have to propose one of the officers of the Court as guardian and have to meet the expenses connected therewith in the first instance which expenses will ultimately have to be borne by the minors. This is really a hardship to the minors. Courts may be empowered to pass *ex-parte* decrees when the natural guardians fail to appear before them though served with notices.

Mr. Purushottam Anandagiri Gosai.—In certain cases, when the guardian is absent, the Head Munshi of the Court is appointed guardian and the case is settled. This is not the best arrangement that could be thought of as the Head Munshi cannot be expected to safeguard the interests of the minor. Besides, when the minor attains majority, he has a right to prefer an appeal against the decree already passed. The position of the decree holders will thus be insecure.

Offg. Second Member of Council.—When the question came up last time, it was discussed and settled that it was not possible to grant the request.

SUBJECT No. 31.

Copies of complaints in Criminal cases.

Messrs. A. Srikantappa, Doddballapur Municipality and Devasettappa, Doddballapur Taluk.

Mr. A. Sreekantappa.—In criminal cases, a copy of the complaint petition may be served along with the summons to the accused as in civil cases, as it helps the early disposal of cases by giving an opportunity to the accused to know the nature of the complaint made against him. There is not much expense to Government on this score. But the advantages to the parties are many.

Justice Mr. K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—The forms of summons and arrest warrant have been amplified so as to give all the particulars necessary in the interests of accused persons. No further change seems necessary. They could easily apply for and obtain copies of complaints when necessary.

Offg. Second Member of Council.—Is it in private cases or police cases? In police cases, the accused are arrested before-hand. A copy of the charge-sheet may be taken. About private cases, the Government of India are amending the Criminal Procedure Code and we will look into the question later on.

POLICE.

(Nos. 32 to 34.)

SUBJECT No. 32.

Exemption of Shanbhogs from the operation of the Arms Regulation.

Mr. N. Nagappaiya.—Shanbhogs may be exempted from the operation of the Arms Regulation as they will have to perform police duties at times.